

20/07/2026

Dear

ATISN 27129

Information requested

Thank you for your request which I received on 23/06/2026. You asked for:

Information held by the Welsh Government relating to Trydan Gwyrdd Cymru (Trydan) and its appointment, commissioning or use of Cadno Communications Ltd, or any associated Cadno entity. You asked for the following information for the period from 1 March 2024 to the date of this request:

1. Any correspondence between the Welsh Government and Trydan Gwyrdd Cymru relating to the appointment, commissioning, procurement or use of Cadno Communications.
2. Any correspondence between the Welsh Government and Cadno Communications relating to Trydan Gwyrdd Cymru.
3. Any ministerial submissions, briefing notes, advice, approval papers, internal emails, meeting notes or decision records concerning Trydan Gwyrdd Cymru's use of external public affairs, communications, stakeholder engagement, lobbying, consultation or political monitoring support.
4. Any records held by the Welsh Government concerning the procurement route used by Trydan Gwyrdd Cymru to appoint Cadno Communications, including whether the appointment was made by open tender, framework, quotation process, direct award, extension, call-off or any other route.
5. Any records held by the Welsh Government concerning the value, duration, scope, deliverables or purpose of the Cadno Communications contract.
6. Any records of Welsh Government advice, discussion or approval concerning whether it was appropriate for a Welsh Government-owned company to use external public affairs or lobbying support.
7. Any records identifying whether Cadno Communications has been asked, instructed or expected to engage with Welsh Government ministers, special advisers, Welsh Government officials, Members of the Senedd, MPs, councillors, local authorities, Natural Resources Wales or other public bodies on behalf of Trydan Gwyrdd Cymru.
8. Any lobbying plans, stakeholder maps, engagement strategies, public affairs reports, political monitoring reports, meeting logs or related documents produced by Cadno Communications and shared with, copied to, or otherwise held by the Welsh Government.

9. Any conflict of interest declarations, due diligence checks, propriety assessments or governance advice held by the Welsh Government relating to Cadno Communications' work for Trydan Gwyrdd Cymru.
10. Any records of meetings, calls or correspondence involving Welsh Government ministers, special advisers or officials where Cadno Communications attended, arranged the meeting, briefed Trydan Gwyrdd Cymru, or otherwise supported Trydan Gwyrdd Cymru's engagement.

Our response

We have identified information relevant to your request and have enclosed copies of the documents held. We can confirm that we hold no further information within the scope of your request.

The enclosed documents contain information that falls both within and outside the scope of the request. Information that is not relevant to the request has been redacted where it relates to other aspects of Trydan's business, governance and operational activities.

Certain information falling within the scope of the request has also been withheld under Regulation 12(5)(e) of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. The reasons for applying this exception are set out in Annex A.

1. Please see enclosed documents.
2. No information held.
3. Please see enclosed documents.
4. Please see enclosed documents.
5. Please see enclosed documents.
6. No information held.
7. No information held.
8. No information held.
9. No information held.
10. No information held.

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ

or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely

Annex A

Application of exemptions/exceptions

The Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) provide a right for anyone to ask a public authority to make requested information available to the wider public. As the release of requested information is to the world, not just the requester, public authorities need to consider the effects of making the information freely available to everybody. Any personal interest the requester has for accessing the information cannot override those wider considerations.

We recognise that the EIR Regulations contain a presumption in favour of disclosure, however we have decided to withhold the following information and have redacted it in the enclosed documents:

- Information contained within the Trydan Procurement Report Community and Engagement Support document relating to tender evaluation, comparative bidder performance and commercially sensitive procurement information.

This annex sets out the reasons for the engagement of Regulation 12(5)(e) of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and our subsequent consideration of the public interest test.

Regulation 12(5)(e) provides an exception where disclosure would adversely affect the confidentiality of commercial or industrial information where that confidentiality is provided by law to protect a legitimate economic interest.

The withheld information under this regulation relates to a competitive procurement exercise and contains commercially sensitive information relating to tender submissions and the evaluation of those submissions. This includes information relating to suppliers' commercial proposals, tender evaluation outcomes and comparative scoring information.

We consider that this information has the necessary quality of confidence and that disclosure would be likely to prejudice the legitimate commercial interests of the organisations involved. In particular, disclosure could place suppliers at a competitive disadvantage in future procurement exercises by revealing information about their relative competitive performance, pricing approaches and evaluation outcomes.

We also consider that disclosure could adversely affect the Welsh Government's ability to obtain best value through future procurement activity, as suppliers may be less willing to provide commercially sensitive information if they believe it may subsequently enter the public domain.

Public Interest Test

In order to satisfy the public interest test in relation to the exemption, it is necessary to conclude that the public interest arguments in favour of withholding the information are sufficient to outweigh the public interest arguments in favour of release.

Public interest arguments in favour of disclosure

There is a public interest in transparency and accountability regarding public procurement activity. Disclosure would assist public understanding of how contracts were awarded and how public funds are spent. It would also enable greater scrutiny of the decision making process and provide reassurance that the procurement was conducted fairly and in accordance with established procedures.

Public interest arguments in favour of withholding

There is a public interest in protecting commercially sensitive information provided as part of a competitive procurement process. Disclosure of information relating to unsuccessful bidders, including detailed evaluation outcomes, could prejudice the commercial interests of those organisations and place them at a competitive disadvantage in future procurements. The withheld information contains details of bidders' relative competitive performance, including technical and commercial scoring. Release of this information could undermine the legitimate economic interests of those organisations.

There is also a public interest in ensuring that organisations are willing to participate openly in public procurement exercises. Suppliers must be able to provide commercially sensitive information with confidence that it will not subsequently be disclosed in a manner that could damage their competitive position. Disclosure could discourage participation in future procurement exercises or inhibit the quality and candour of information submitted by bidders.

In addition, disclosure of detailed evaluation information concerning unsuccessful bidders could prejudice the effectiveness of future procurement activity by revealing commercially sensitive information about competitors, pricing approaches and relative strengths and weaknesses identified during the evaluation process. The public interest is best served by maintaining a fair and competitive procurement environment.

Balance of public interest test

We recognise the public interest in transparency and accountability in relation to public procurement activity and have disclosed information concerning the purpose of the procurement, the procurement process and the outcome of the exercise. However, we consider that the public interest in maintaining the exception outweighs the public interest in disclosure because release of the withheld information would adversely affect the legitimate commercial interests of third-party organisations and could prejudice the conduct of future procurement activity. The withheld information includes commercially sensitive information relating to the evaluation of tenders submitted as part of a competitive procurement process.

For these reasons, we consider that the public interest favours withholding the commercially sensitive information while releasing the remainder of the document in redacted form in order to support transparency and accountability.